

#270812

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

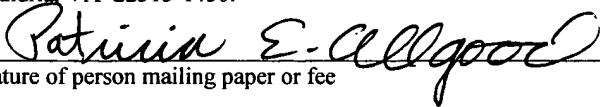
In re patent application of:)	
)	
J. Kenneth Burkus et al.)	Before the Examiner
)	Unassigned
Serial No.: New Application)	
)	
Filed: Herewith)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
METHODS AND INSTRUMENTATION)	
FOR VERTEBRAL INTERBODY)	
FUSION)	Atty Docket No. 4002-3501/PC361.18

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified U. S. Patent Application, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/965,018 filed September 27, 2001, please enter the following. Please charge any fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

<p><u>Express Mail Label No EV 394 105 875 US</u> <u>Date of Deposit March 19, 2004</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</p> <p></p> <p>Signature of person mailing paper or fee</p>
